

Message

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Sent: 8/29/2017 2:42:10 PM
To: R6Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=36e6a74f07ae4de9a967e27a9f33ca3a-R6Press]
Subject: Daily News Digest, Tuesday, August 29
Attachments: Daily News Digest 082917.pdf

****Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.***

****To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.***

1 — Relief from rains expected as Harvey moves east, Houston Chronicle, 8/29/2017

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-weather/hurricaneharvey/article/Rain-predicted-Monday-in-Harvey-s-wake-12045632.php>

Houston residents should see some relief from torrential downpours and flooding later Tuesday, as Tropical Storm Harvey moves northeast into Louisiana, according to the National Weather Service.

2 — Harvey's track will now bring it through Louisiana, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 8/29/2017

<http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2017/08/harvey-heads-louisiana-rain.html#incart=river-home>
Metro New Orleans and all of Southeast Louisiana remain under a flash flood watch Tuesday morning in anticipation of Tropical Storm Harvey. Forecasters said the storm could dump up to 6 inches through Friday morning in the metro area.

3 — Refineries now facing brunt of Harvey-related flooding, Platts, 8/28/2017

<https://www.platts.com/latest-news/oil/newyork/oil-factbox-refineries-now-facing-brunt-of-harvey-21772848>

Oil and gas companies on the Texas Gulf Coast were dealing Monday with the impact of Tropical Storm Harvey, which was unleashing torrential rains and flooding in the Houston area after making landfall Saturday near Corpus Christi.

4 — EPA to Expand Fuel Waivers in Texas Areas, Louisiana, US News & World Report, 8/28/2017

<https://www.usnews.com/news/top-news/articles/2017-08-28/us-epa-to-expand-fuel-waivers-in-texas-areas-louisiana-source>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will lift as soon as Monday additional gasoline and diesel fuel requirements for more areas of Texas and for Louisiana to address potential shortages caused by Tropical Storm Harvey, a source familiar with the process told Reuters.

5 — Water Contamination a Concern After Hurricane Harvey, BNA, 8/28/2017

<https://www.bna.com/water-contamination-concern-n73014463778/>

The Environmental Protection Agency is prioritizing search and rescue for those who were stranded by the storm, but federal and state environmental agencies in the Houston and Galveston areas may soon face contaminated drinking water and flooded wastewater plants.

6 — Public health dangers loom in Harvey-hit areas, AP, 8/28/2017

http://www.wacotrib.com/news/ap_texas/public-health-dangers-loom-in-harvey-hit-areas/article_9da3d88d-2a20-5e45-9350-8e7ad6d10787.html

The muddy floodwaters now soaking through drywall, carpeting, mattresses and furniture in Houston will pose a massive cleanup challenge with potential public health consequences.

7— Levees could be at risk in Fort Bend, Brazoria counties, Houston Chronicle, 8/28/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-weather/hurricaneharvey/article/Harvey-Aftermath-Levees-could-be-at-risk-in-Fort-12079655.php>

Mandatory evacuations were ordered in Fort Bend and Brazoria County Monday as the Brazos River rose toward historic heights, putting a string of levees at risk of failure.

8 — Harvey sends gasoline prices climbing, deepens Venezuela's suffering, Washington Post, 8/28/17

<http://wapo.st/2iDXlcv>

Hurricane Harvey's strike at the heart of the U.S. oil and gas industry caused backups throughout the petroleum system on Monday, from storage tanks in Cushing, Okla. to tankers waiting for gulf ports to reopen, and set U.S. gasoline prices soaring to the highest levels in two years.

9 — Williams Cos. says its pipeline was source of chemical leak during Harvey, Houston Chronicle, 8/29/17

<http://www.chron.com/business/energy/article/Williams-Cos-claims-pipeline-that-caused-12123985.php>

Oklahoma's Williams Cos. says it was its pipeline that leaked dangerous chemicals Monday at La Porte and triggered an emergency shelter-in-place warning amid floodwaters.

10 — Harvey prompts federal health emergency declaration for Louisiana, Baton Rouge Advocate, 8/28/17

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/politics/article_b42df038-8c57-11e7-a844-cf02b1f00561.html

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Tom Price has issued a public health emergency for Louisiana as the state braces for Tropical Storm Harvey, loosening some restrictions for hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents who rely on federal health care programs.

11 — What UST owners can do after a flood, NACS, 8/25/17

<http://www.nacsonline.com/YourBusiness/FuelsCenter/Operations/News/Pages/ND0829171.aspx#.WaVtErKGMnQ>

Approximately 558,000 underground storage tanks (USTs) in the United States store gasoline or hazardous substances, and these UST systems can be vulnerable to damage during natural disasters like Hurricane Harvey—and can even release regulated substances into the environment. Before returning a damaged UST to service, the owner or operator needs to ensure the system has been properly evaluated and restored to safe operating condition.

12 — Explosion, fire at downtown building amid flooding, Houston Chronicle, 8/28/17

<http://www.chron.com/150years/article/Explosion-fire-at-downtown-building-amid-flooding-12060313.php>

An explosion has caused a significant fire to the offices of Lone Star Legal Aid in downtown Houston.

13 — Port of Corpus Christi remains closed after drilling ship breaks from dock, sinks tugboat, San Antonio Express-News, 8/28/17

<http://www.expressnews.com/aboutsfgate/article/Port-of-Corpus-Christi-closed-after-drilling-ship-12061558.php>

The Port of Corpus Christi remains closed after an oil drilling ship broke from its mooring Saturday, sank a tugboat and beached in the ship channel's entrance to the Gulf of Mexico.

14 — Much of state keeping watch as Harvey remnants turn inland; 'significant rainfall' expected in Arkansas, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 8/29/17

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2017/aug/29/much-of-state-keeping-watch-as-rain-loo-1/>

The remnants of the storm could dump up to 10 inches of rain on some parts of Arkansas, said meteorologist Sean Clarke of the National Weather Service in North Little Rock.

15 — Analysis: Four things Houston-area leaders must do to prevent future flooding disasters, Texas Tribune, 8/29/17

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/08/29/four-things-houston-area-leaders-must-do-prevent-future-flooding-disas/>

An unprecedented amount of rain has fallen on the Houston area in the past few days, causing what's likely the worst flooding event that the nation's sixth-largest metropolitan area has ever. This may seem like a freak occurrence. But it's the third catastrophic flooding event this region of 6.5 million people has experienced in three years. And scientists and other experts say that much of the devastation could have been prevented.

16 — Port of New Orleans wants to clean up its brownfields, Louisiana Weekly, 8/28/17

<http://www.louisianaweekly.com/port-of-new-orleans-wants-to-clean-up-its-brownfields/>

Polluted sites with vacant or falling structures along the Industrial Canal, including one in New Orleans East and others in the Florida Avenue Turning Basin in the Upper Ninth Ward, are slated for an eventual cleanup. In January, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gave a \$200,000 Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant to the Port of New Orleans so that it can find ways to rehabilitate its decaying waterfronts.

17 — Neighbors challenge sewage treatment plans for mobile home park in Oklahoma County, The Oklahoman, 8/28/17

<http://newsok.com/neighbors-challenge-sewage-treatment-plans-for-mobile-home-park-in-oklahoma-county/article/5561742>

Neighbors are turning up their noses at the sewage treatment plans for a proposed 40-acre mobile home park in northern Oklahoma County.